

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 227088

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D COPY (CORRECTION PARA 2)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, SN

SUBJECT: SINGAPORE JUNGLE TRAINING CENTER IN BRUNEI

REF: A. SINGAPORE 4001 B. KUALA LUMPUR 5504

1. UNLESS EMBASSY LONDON PERCEIVES OBJECTION, DEPT WILL
TAKE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED BY DESIGNATION BRITISH EMBASSY
MINISTER H. A. CORTAZZI AS FCO'S DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY
FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS TO DISCUSS SINGAPORE JUNGLE TRAINING

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CENTER IN BRUNEI WITH HIM THIS WEEK ALONG FOLLOWING LINES.

2. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THE SCHOOL WOULD BE ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE NEXT TWO YEARS, USING UK AND COMMONWEALTH ADVISORS. WE RECOGNIZE THE GOM SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED, AND HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE GOS IS APPROACHING THE GOM ON THE MATTER DIRECTLY. SHOULD UK ACCEDE TO THE GOS REQUEST, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO SUPPLY SOME CURRICULUM ASSISTANCE (IN THE FORM OF BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, ETC') WHEN THE SCHOOL IS ESTABLISHED.

3. FOR SINGAPORE: GIVEN GOM CONCERNS POINTED OUT REF B, WE BELIEVE THAT FOREGOING IS THE EXTENT OF THE "URGING" THAT WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE. YOU MAY INFORM THE GOS THAT WE WILL DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THE BRITISH. SHOULD UK DECISION BE FAVORABLE, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO OFFER SUCH CURRICULUM ASSISTANCE (BUT NOT INSTRUCTORS) AS MIGHT BE CONSIDERED USEFUL. IT IS, HOWEVER, UP TO THE GOS TO PRESS ITS OWN CASE DIRECTLY WITH THE BRITISH, AND TO ALLEVIATE ANY GOM SUSPICIONS REGARDING THE PLAN. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR A FAVORABLE DECISION WOULD BE ENHANCED IF GOS PRESSED THE MATTER CANDIDLY AND DIRECTLY AT A HIGH LEVEL WITH THE GOM. "NOTE TO RAZAK" MENTIONED REFTTEL WOULD SEEM INADEQUATE. ROBINSON

SECRET

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